AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) A protein comprising a recombinant uricase protein of a mammalian species which has been modified to insert one or more lysine residues wherein said recombinant protein is a chimeric protein of two or more mammalian amino acid sequences.

3. (Original) A protein of claim 2 wherein said recombinant uricase chimeric protein comprises 304 amino acids, the first 225 N-terminal portion of said 304 amino acids being amino acids 1-225 of porcine uricase and the remaining 79 amino acids of said 304 amino acids being amino acids 226-304 of baboon uricase.

4. (Original) A protein of claim 2 wherein said recombinant uricase chimeric protein comprises 304 amino acids, the first 288 N-terminal portion of said 304 amino acids being amino acids 1-288 of porcine uricase and the remaining 16 amino acids of said 304 amino acids being amino acids 289-304 of baboon uricase.

5. (Original) A recombinant uricase protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:s 2 , 4, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

6. (Currently Amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding for the recombinant uricase of claim 2.

7. (Currently Amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding for the recombinant uricase of claim 3.

8. (Currently Amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding for the ~~a~~ recombinant uricase of claim 4.

9. (Currently Amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding for the ~~a~~ recombinant uricase of claim 5.

10. (Original) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 9 having a base sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

11. (Original) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 9 having a base sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

12. (Currently Amended) A vector comprising the ~~a~~ nucleic acid molecule of claim 6~~claim 2~~.

13. (Original) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 9.

14. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector according to claim 12.

15. (Original) A host cell comprising a vector according to claim 13.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the available non-deleterious PEG attachment sites in a mammalian uricase protein comprising mutating a mammalian uricase protein whereby at least one lysine residue is introduced therein.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of increasing the available non-deleterious PEG attachment sites in a mammalian uricase protein comprising mutating a mammalian uricase protein whereby at least one lysine residue is introduced therein in the place of an arginine.

18. (Previously Presented) A protein comprising a recombinant uricase protein of a mammalian species which has been modified to include one or more lysine residues, said recombinant uricase protein comprising a C-terminal SRL sequence of a mammalian uricase.

19. (Currently Amended) A protein comprising a recombinant uricase protein of a mammalian species which has been modified to include one or more lysine residues, wherein said recombinant uricase protein does not include the three carboxy terminal amino acids of ~~a mammalian~~ the mammalian uricase.

20. (Currently Amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding for the recombinant uricase of claim 18.

21. (Currently Amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule coding for the recombinant uricase of claim 19.

22. (Previously Presented) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 20.

23. (Previously Presented) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 21.

24. (Previously Presented) A host cell comprising a vector according to claim 22.

25. (Previously Presented) A host cell comprising a vector according to claim 23.